

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Shinji KIKUCHI

Appln. No. 09/964,498

Group Art Unit: 2161

Confirmation No.: 2543

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: September 28, 2001

RECEIVED
NOV 21 2001
Technology Center 2100

For: ELECTRONIC COMMERCE TRANSACTION AUDIT SYSTEM, ELECTRONIC COMMERCE TRANSACTION AUDIT METHOD, AND STORAGE MEDIUM RECORDING ELECTRONIC COMMERCE TRANSACTION AUDIT PROGRAM THEREON

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 10-93557, published April 10, 1998.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

Shinji KIKUCHI
09/964,498
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

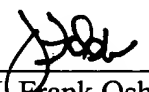
request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant states that the above reference is discussed within the specification beginning at page 1, line 11.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860



J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24,625

Date: NOV 21 2001

[illegible]